procedure of the members of ITAT at present;

(b) the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to create additional benches of ITAT in near future and what are the criteria adopted by Government to make the selection procedure to less time consuming for filling up these vacancies; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) and (b) There are at present 11 vacancies of Members in the Income-tax Appellate Tribunal i.e. 5 vacancies of Judicial Members and 6 vacancies of Accountant Members. Steps have already been taken for filling up 2 vacancies of Judicial Members and 2 vacancies of Account Members. The selection procedure has already been initiated for filling up the remaining vacancies. Selections for these posts are made by a high powered Selection Board headed by a sitting Judge of the Supreme Court.

(c) amd (d) A proposal for the creation of 15 additional Benches of the I.T.A.T. has been forwarded to the Ministry of Finance for their concurrence The selection procedure for appointment of members in the ITAT has already been revised so as to make it less time consuming.

Modern facilities at Tourist Places in the Country Visited by Foreign Tourists

3626. SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the modern facilities are available at the tourist placaes where maximum number of foreign tourists visit;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of complaints lodged by tourists and nature thereof;

(d) the action taken by the authorities on these complaints; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to encourage inflow of more foreign tourists into the country?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) and (b) The development of modern infrastructural facilities is an ongoing process and is being achieved. Some financial assistance is provided to State Government and private investment is also encouraged in this regard. However, the resources availalbe for the development of such facilities are limited.

(c) and (d) During last year, 117 complaints were received by the Department of Tourism. These complaints, mostly from overseas tourists, include inadequate road and air services, cheating by shop-keepers and incoveniences suffered by tourists. These complaints have been acknowleged and enquiries are made either directly or throught the concerned Departments. A small cell has also been set up in the Department of Tourism to deal with such complaints.

(e) Steps taken by the Government to encourage inflow of foreign tourists include improvement of infrastructural facilities, development of tourist attractions and strengthening of publicity and promotional efforts.

Pending cases for legal opinion

3627. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases pending with the Ministry during the last three years year-wise received from various Ministries/Departments for legal opinion against RIL group of industries;

(b) the reasons for inordinate delay in giving legal advice to the various Ministries/Departments;